United Nations A/C.2/65/L.29

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
4 November 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 26
Agriculture development and food security

Yemen:* draft resolution

Agriculture development and food security

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the convening of the World Summit on Food Security in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[8] and the outcome document of the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

10-62058 (E) 051110

Please recycle

High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[9]

Recalling also the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,[10] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[11] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the goal set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[12] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,[13]

Taking note with appreciation of the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and enhancing food security,

Recognizing the important role played by indigenous peoples and local communities, and their knowledge and practices, in preserving traditional crops and biodiversity for present and future generations as an important contribution to food security,

Recognizing also the importance and positive role of cooperatives, small farmers and indigenous and local communities in developing countries as vehicles for the implementation of the development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

Recognizing further that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are essential to achieving enhanced food security in an environmentally sustainable way,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities,

Expressing concern that the number of people suffering from hunger and poverty now exceeds 1 billion, which is an unacceptable blight on the lives, livelihoods and dignity of one sixth of the world's population, mostly in developing

---

[9] See resolution 65/1.

[10] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[11] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[12] See resolution 55/2.

[13] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29).

countries, and noting that the effects of long-standing underinvestment in food security, agriculture and rural development have recently been further exacerbated by the food, financial and economic crises, among other factors,

Remaining concerned that volatile food prices and the global food crisis pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Remaining deeply concerned that despite the recent fallback in world prices, domestic prices and price volatility remain high and poorer people are particularly affected by fluctuations in the prices of food and in the costs of inputs and transport,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[14]

2. *Welcomes* the note by the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security on the reform of the Committee and on progress made towards implementation and urges Member States to strongly support the reform process and the aims and endeavours of the Committee;

3. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security is a national responsibility, and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led, and built on consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, and urges Member States to make food security a high priority and reflect this in their national programmes and budgets in accordance with national legislation;

4. *Stresses* the need to strengthen international coordination and governance for food security, through the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, of which the Committee on World Food Security is a central component, and reiterates that it is essential to enhance global governance, building on existing institutions and fostering effective partnerships;

5. *Welcomes* the strengthening of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions and international trade, financial and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as the strengthening of cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the private sector in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development and food security;

6. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development and food security in the context of national and international development policies;

[14] A/65/253.

7. *Recognizes* the need to design a comprehensive and coordinated response to address the multiple and complex causes of the global food crisis, including the adoption of political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community, including for mitigating the impact of the high volatility of food prices on developing countries; the relevant United Nations organizations have an important role to play in this regard;

8. *Underlines* the importance of enhancing synergies between agriculture, biodiversity, food security and development policies and strategies at both the national and international levels, including by prioritizing and mainstreaming agriculture and food security into development policies;

9. *Stresses* that the need to increase the sustainable production and augment the availability and quality of food, including through long-term investment, access of smallholder farmers to markets, credit and inputs, improved land-use planning, crop diversification, commercialization, and development of an adequate rural infrastructure and enhanced market access for developing countries is critical to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 1;

10. *Also stresses* the need to promote at all levels a strong enabling environment for enhancing agricultural production, productivity and sustainability in developing countries, including through public and private investment, land-use planning, efficient water management, adequate rural infrastructure, including irrigation, and developing strong agricultural value chains and improving access of farmers to markets and land and supportive economic policies and institutions at the national and international levels;

11. *Further stresses* the need to promote the empowerment and participation of rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and to ensure their equal access to productive resources, land, financing, technologies, training and markets, and to take measures that ensure food security and nutrition for women;

12. *Recognizes* the consequences of the global food crisis on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries, especially in Africa, and calls for an integrated response by African countries and the international community, working in partnership to support integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches;

13. *Also recognizes*, in this regard, the need for Africa to boost agricultural productivity, food production and regional food security, welcomes the strong leadership taken by African countries in undertaking initiatives to address the challenges of sustainable agricultural development and to achieve food security, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, that can provide a framework through which support for agriculture and food security can be coordinated, and calls upon the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[15]

14. *Stresses* the importance of food security and the need to strengthen the agricultural sector in Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to eradicating

[15] A/57/304, annex.

hunger and malnutrition and guaranteeing food security in the region, which is the aim of the Hunger-free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 initiative;

15. *Recognizes* the commendable achievement of Asia and the Pacific in its fight against hunger, but stresses that the region is still home to the majority of world hunger, and in this regard welcomes the initiatives taken by various regional and subregional organizations on the problem of hunger by addressing the interconnected challenges of food security, malnutrition, poor health care, adverse and unfair agriculture market conditions, weak infrastructure and environmental degradation;

16. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, national and regional efforts by developing countries to implement long-term policies and measures that contribute to food security and agricultural development, such as the food security fund of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America; the Regional Conference for Africa of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development; the Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security adopted by the African Union; the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; the Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Ministerial Meeting on Food Security of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum; the Pacific Food Summit on behalf of the Food Secure Pacific Working Group; the Hunger-free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 initiative; the Regional Special Programme for Food Security of the Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific States; the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming of the Common Market of the South; the Regional Coordination Unit for the Regional Programme for Food Security of the Economic Cooperation Organization; the Initiative for Food Security of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development; the Emergency Programme for Arab Food Security launched at the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, held in Kuwait on 19 and 20 January 2009; and the convening of an international summit on food security in Doha in 2011;

17. *Recognizes* that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are useful instruments to increase the capacities of developing countries to share experiences on the aforementioned agricultural activities and to address related economic and social issues;

18. *Requests* related United Nations organizations, funds and programmes, regions and subregions and the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation to support existing and new South-South cooperation initiatives that contribute to food security and agriculture development;

19. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

20. *Calls for* international, regional and national efforts to increase the ability of the agricultural sector to predict, prevent and address the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, especially floods and droughts, on agricultural production and food systems, and to enhance the ability of that sector to regain livelihoods and re-establish food productions;

21. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of domestic, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all, especially smallholders and women farmers from developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with World Trade Organization rules aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and compete on a more equal footing on world markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

22. *Recognizes* the need for substantial additional investment and better policies in support of smallholder agriculture to enable many of the poorest countries to reach the targets of Millennium Development Goal 1;

23. *Also recognizes* the importance of agricultural investment, including foreign direct investment through, inter alia, the private sector, in enhancing agricultural development and food security and, therefore, calls on foreign investors to engage in agricultural practices in accordance with national legislation, taking into account national sovereignty over natural resources, environmental balance, as well as the importance of promoting the well-being and improving the livelihoods of the local community and indigenous peoples, as appropriate;

24. *Further recognizes* the need to advance in the building of a well-functioning, universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system which promotes sustainable development as the best tool to achieve an effective agricultural trading system that ensures fair prices and promotes farmer empowerment, transparency and an enhanced role for cooperatives and that ensures that developing countries can meet their rural development needs, and achieve food security and livelihood security for small farmers and indigenous peoples;

25. *Calls on* Member States and relevant international organizations to take measures to ensure a sustainable trade policy that would be capable of stimulating balanced North-South trade and contributing to supporting small and marginalized producers in developing countries, and to identify the obstacles to trade that have the most serious impact on the world's poor;

26. *Recognizes* the urgency of, and reaffirming its commitment to, reaching a successful and timely conclusion by 2010 to the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced outcome as a key action to improve food security;

27. *Calls for* the immediate elimination of all forms of agricultural subsidies and other market-distorting measures by developed countries, and urges the developed countries to demonstrate the necessary flexibility and political will to address meaningfully these key concerns of developing countries at the Doha Round of trade negotiations;

28. *Welcomes* the commitments made at the Group of Eight Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009, to act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security, and calls for the timely realization of the commitments made by the countries represented at L'Aquila towards the goal of

mobilizing 20 billion United States dollars over three years through this coordinated, comprehensive strategy focused on sustainable agriculture development;

29. *Calls for* delivery on the commitments made to achieve global food security and the provision of adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the commitments set out in the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative;

30. *Recognizes* the role of indigenous communities and of the traditional seed supply systems of small farmers, in developing countries, in the conservation of biodiversity and food security, and urges Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies to strengthen the farmer-based seed supply at the community level rather than to focus only on the modern commercial sector;

31. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, to enhance the productivity of food crops, and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

32. *Underlines* the importance of promoting the creation and development of small and medium-sized enterprises as a strategy to achieve agriculture development and food security, economic dynamism and poverty eradication, including through, inter alia, the mobilization of resources and the adoption of measures to foster social inclusion, and of enabling cooperatives to effectively compete in the market, on equal terms with other forms of enterprise, with a view to strengthening their positive role and increasing their potential to act as vehicles for building or increasing the number of small and medium-sized enterprises;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on developments related issues highlighted in the present resolution and the progress of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", to be allocated to the Second Committee.